

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

May 24, 2002

IN RE:

**PETITION OF MCI WORLDCOM TO ENFORCE
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT WITH
BELL SOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.**

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DOCKET NO. 01-00513

**ORDER GRANTING JOINT MOTION TO CONTINUE
THE DATE FOR FILING POST-HEARING BRIEFS**

On April 25, 2002, the Hearing Officer issued a Notice of Filing, which directed the parties to file post-hearing briefs no later than Monday, May 6, 2002. On April 29, 2002, the parties in this matter filed an Agreed Joint Motion for Extension of Time, in which the parties requested an extension of time from May 6, 2002 until May 27, 2002 to file post-hearing briefs. The parties stated that they have reached a tentative settlement and request an additional three (3) weeks to finalize the agreement. By Order dated May 3, 2002, the Hearing Officer granted the parties' April 29, 2002 Joint Motion with the modification that post-hearing briefs were due on May 28, 2002. On May 23, 2002, the parties filed the Joint Motion of MCI WorldCom and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. to Continue the Date for Filing Post-Hearing Briefs, in which the parties state that they are continuing to work toward a final settlement agreement and request that the Hearing Officer continue the filing of post-hearing briefs until Friday, June 28, 2002.

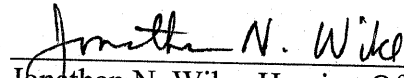
The Hearing Officer grants the parties' May 23, 2002 Joint Motion with one modification. No later than June 14, 2002, the parties shall inform the Hearing Officer, jointly

and in writing, of the status of their settlement negotiations and the likelihood that a settlement will be reached.


IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The Joint Motion of MCI WorldCom and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. to Continue the Date for Filing Post-Hearing Briefs, filed on May 23, 2002, is granted, as modified in this Order.

2. No later than June 14, 2002, the parties shall inform the Hearing Officer, jointly and in writing, of the status of their settlement negotiations and the likelihood that a settlement will be reached.


Jonathan N. Wike, Hearing Officer

ATTEST:


K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary